

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1 1. A method of lacing together portions of an inflatable evacuation slide system comprising:
 - 2 providing a first panel composed of a first flexible material, said first panel having a first
 - 3 edge and a first plurality of apertures;
 - 4 providing a second panel composed of a second material, said second panel having a
 - 5 second edge and a second plurality of apertures corresponding to said first plurality of
 - 6 apertures;
 - 7 providing a length of cord having a first end and a second end;
 - 8 attaching said cord to one of said first panel and said second panel;
 - 9 passing a portion of said cord through each of said first plurality of apertures to form a
 - 10 plurality of loops including a first loop proximal said first end, a second loop adjacent said
 - 11 first loop, and a remainder of said plurality of loops including a last loop proximal said second
 - 12 end of said cord;
 - 13 passing each of said plurality of loops through corresponding apertures of said second
 - 14 plurality of apertures;
 - 15 thereafter threading each of said plurality of loops through an immediately preceding
 - 16 adjacent loop beginning with threading said second loop through said first loop and
 - 17 continuing with said remainder of said plurality of loops until said last loop is reached;
 - 18 and securing said last loop to one of said first and second panels.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein:

2 said last loop comprises a key loop formed by tying a knot in said cord proximal said
3 second end.

1 3. The method of claim 1, wherein:

2 said last loop comprises a key loop formed by attaching said cord to one of said first
3 panel and said second panel proximal said second end of said cord.

1 4. The method of claim 1, wherein:

2 said first plurality of apertures is disposed along said first edge of said first panel and said
3 second plurality of apertures is disposed along said second edge of said second panel.

1 5. The method of claim 2, further comprising:

2 attaching a remotely actuated cord cutter to said key loop.

1 6. The method of claim 2, further comprising:

2 inserting a removable pin through said key loop to retain said key loop in a fixed position.

1 7. The method of claim 3, further comprising:

2 attaching a remotely actuated cord cutter to said key loop.

1 8. The method of claim 3, further comprising:

2 inserting a removable pin through said key loop to retain said key loop in a fixed position.

1 9. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

2 attaching grommets to said first panel and said second panel to reinforce said first
3 plurality of apertures and said second plurality of apertures.

1 10. The method of claim 1, wherein:

2 said first panel and said second panel comprise portions of an enclosure for storing an un-
3 inflated, stored evacuation slide within an aircraft.

1 11. The method of claim 1, wherein:

2 said first panel and said second panel comprise portions of a compartment for storing an
3 un-inflated extensible toe portion of an inflatable evacuation slide.

1 12. Apparatus for joining together two parts of an inflatable aircraft evacuation slide

2 comprising:

3 a single strand of cord having a first end attached to one of said two parts to be joined;
4 two opposed rows of apertures formed one each in said two parts to be joined, each of
5 said two opposed rows of apertures arranged respectively along an edge of each of said
6 two parts to be joined, each of said apertures in one of said two opposed rows of
7 apertures disposed to correspond with an aperture in the other of said two opposed rows
8 of apertures to form a plurality of pairs of apertures;
9 a chain of interlocked loops formed by a portion of said single strand of cord being
10 threaded through each of said plurality of pairs of apertures to form a plurality of loops
11 each of which is thereafter threaded through an adjacent loop, said chain of interlocked
12 loops terminating in a single key loop; and
13 a releasable member securing said key loop to one of said two parts to be joined.

1 13. The apparatus of claim 10, wherein:

2 said releasable member comprises a pin threaded through said key loop, whereby said key
3 loop is released by withdrawing said pin from said key loop.

1 14. The apparatus of claim 10, wherein:

2 said releasable member comprises a cord cutter attached to said key loop, whereby said
3 key loop is released by said cord cutter cutting said key loop.